

# NEBRASKA

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MAY 1979

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 5

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### PUBLISHER'S NOTE

Dear Friends:

Although the end of spring practice signals the conclusion of football until next August, **NEBRASKA Magazine** will continue to keep you attuned to all Cornhusker grid accomplishments — both past and present — throughout the summer months.

In this issue, we examine the dilemma facing coach Tom Osborne in finding replacements for the graduated Tom Sorley, Kelvin Clark and George Andrews. Whether or not spring drills provided solutions for this and other problems is analyzed by Mike Babcock.

The recent National Football League draft has transformed college veterans into professional rookies. Babcock also visits with the eight Cornhuskers who will continue their football careers at NFL camps this summer.

Rick Reynolds will represent Nebraska in the NCAA golf championships while John Sanders' baseball team is having a record-breaking year in pursuit of a trip to the College World Series at Omaha.

All these stories and more are in this issue of **NEBRASKA**. We hope that you will enjoy it.

GO BIG RED!



Thomas R. LeDuc  
Publisher

## LeDuc Enterprises, Inc.

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Associate Editor	Molly Martin— LeDuc Enterprises, Inc.
Circulation Director	Jamie Fassnacht
Chief Photographer	Ted Kirk
Contributing Writers	Bill Bennett Steve Pederson Ryly Jane Hambleton Rod Von Busch Mike Babcock Ken Hambleton

For information concerning advertising, please contact Dave Shamblin at (402) 474-5736.

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# NEBRASKA

## INSIDE CORNHUSKER SPORTS

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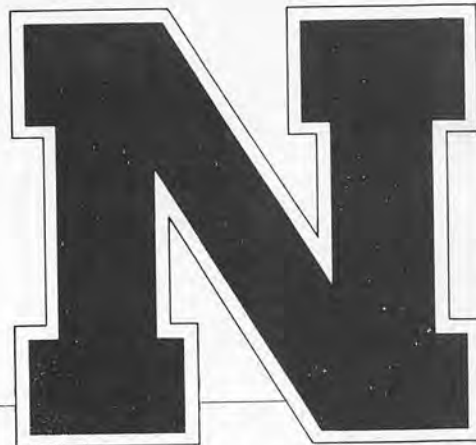
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On the cover: Sophomore wingback Anthony Steele is one of the bright hopes in the Husker future.  
Ted Kirk photo

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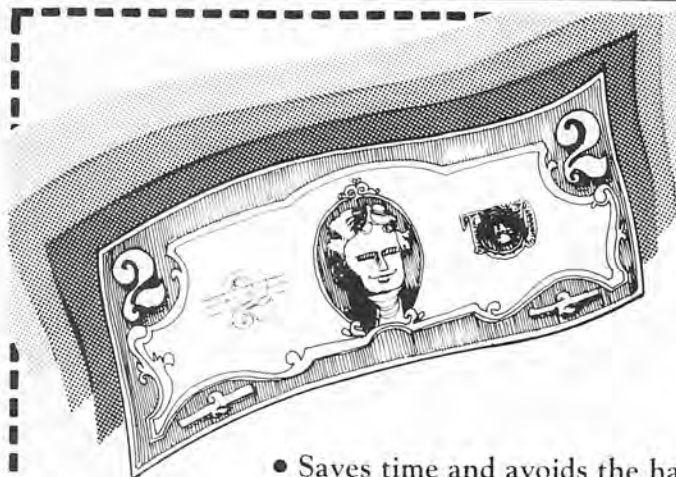
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# JUST ANOTHER DAY? DON'T COUNT ON IT!

by Mike Babcock

For most University of Nebraska students, May 3 was no different than any other Thursday during the spring semester. Dead week was ending, and the prospect of final exams and term papers weighed heavily on their minds.

George Andrews, a graduate student working on a Masters Degree in business, needed to complete one paper and prepare for three finals the next week. But none of those problems was foremost in his mind when he woke from a fitful sleep Thursday morning.

Andrews got up at 4 a.m., watched tele-

vision for two hours, and went back to bed. By 8 a.m. he was up for the day, waiting for the telephone to ring.

The clock said 3:57 a.m. when Kelvin Clark, a senior physical education major in the Teachers College, awoke. He couldn't get back to sleep, and at 6 a.m. his wife, Judy, got up to fix him breakfast. By 10 a.m. Clark was out looking for a telephone repair truck because his phone wasn't working.

Within a half hour, Clark's telephone again was functional; he was expecting a very important phone call.

Andrews and Clark were college students when they awoke on May 3. They're a little larger and they can run faster than most college students, but they had class schedules and notebooks and hourly exams just like 20,000 other UNL students. Like their classmates, they came to Nebraska to prepare for the future, to expand their horizons, and to gain liberal educations.

But unlike most students, football was their means of achieving those goals. It is what brought them both to Lincoln — Andrews from Burke High School in Omaha, Clark from Odessa, Texas. It is what also will take them away from Lincoln, one to Los Angeles, the other to Denver.

The insomnia which plagued each young man Thursday, May 3, was brought on by anticipation of the National Football League college draft. They began that Thursday within three minutes of each other. And by noon, each had received a phone call telling him that he had been drafted into the NFL in the first round.

Since the draft began in 1935, only 11 other Cornhuskers have ever been selected in the opening round. Andrews and Clark became the first ones since 1975, when the Buffalo Bills chose linebacker Tom Ruud.

Andrews was the first to be chosen; his call came from the Los Angeles Rams. "Now I'll be one in 10 million," he said as he thought about living in southern California. The Rams drafted the 6-4, 230-pound All-Big Eight defensive end as a linebacker.

Andrews was the 19th player selected in the draft and the third linebacker taken. The first player drafted, Ohio State's Tom Cousineau, is a linebacker, as is Alabama's Barry Krauss, the sixth player drafted.

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(Left) Defensive end George Andrews was the first Husker to go in this year's professional draft. The Los Angeles Rams, looking to strengthen the defense, selected George. (Right) I-back Rick Berns was selected in the third round to play for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

Ted Kirk photos









(Above) Big Kelvin Clark (73) should help strengthen the Denver Broncos offensive line this season. (Below) Barney Cotton was selected in the third round to play for the Cincinnati Bengals.



(continued from page 6)

Once Andrews had answered the call from the Rams, he couldn't stop his phone from ringing. Los Angeles television stations, radio stations, and newspapers all wanted interviews; he finally took his phone off the hook to give himself some time to think.

A visiting writer from a local newspaper suggested Andrews put his phone back on the hook just to see how long it would take for it to ring. It took three seconds. "Can you believe that?" Andrews said.

He was having trouble believing anything that had happened to him in the previous 90 minutes.

"I've been playing football for 15 years, waiting for something like this," he said. "I'm sure it hasn't even sunk in yet. It was a tremendous thrill to get a phone call and hear them say: 'Congratulations George, you're now a Los Angeles Ram.'"

Three selections after Andrews, Clark was chosen by the Denver Broncos. He was the second lineman taken in the draft — the first was Penn State's Keith Dorney. Dorney was the 10th player drafted.

Clark, a 6-3, 267-pound All-America, had expected to be taken in the second round, not the first. He was concerned that off-season knee surgery might have lessened his worth in the draft, and the phone call from Denver was a surprise. Wednesday's *Denver Post* reported that the Broncos were likely to use their first draft choice on Kent Hill, an offensive tackle from Georgia Tech.

But Jack Mills, Clark's agent, explained: "Denver wanted a player who could come in and start the first year. They really wanted to draft Kent Hill. They think he might have a little more potential, but they felt he was a year away from starting."

Denver head coach Red Miller called Clark, "a player who can come in and make a legitimate bid for a starting role right now. He's a good, strong, leader type," Miller said.

Thursday, May 3, also was a big day for Clark's agent, Jack Mills, who handles Andrews and Nebraska's Barney Cotton as well as several other college football players including Colorado State's Mike Bell, the second player drafted in the first round.

Cotton was the third of eight Cornhuskers selected in the two-day, 12-round draft. The 6-5, 245-pound offensive lineman was the third player chosen in the third round. He went to the Cincinnati Bengals.

Later in the same round, running back Richard Berns was selected by Tampa Bay. By the time Nebraska's all-time leading career rusher got his phone call, he had been waiting nearly 6½ hours. Eighty-one players had been drafted.

(continued)





**Steve Lindquist was selected in the sixth round by the Miami Dolphins. He was the fifth Husker selected out of eight.**

NU guard Steve Lindquist was the final Cornhusker selected on the first day. The Miami Dolphins, looking to strengthen an aging offensive front, drafted Lindquist in the sixth round.

Three more Nebraskans were drafted on Friday. Linebacker Lee Kunz, who may bypass professional football in his quest for excellence in the discus, was selected in the seventh round by the Chicago Bears. Split receiver Frank Lockett was chosen by the Green Bay Packers in the 10th round, and Cleveland drafted defensive tackle Randy Poeschl in the 11th round.

Poeschl played only three games last season before a knee injury and the resulting surgery ended his NU career.

Many factors will determine the players' market value as they look for financial security and their first National Football League contract. That's where agents enter the picture, and that's why it was a good day for Jack Mills, a Boulder, Colo., attorney who has been handling player negotiations for 12 years.

Andrews got in touch with Mills through Jack Lewis, his father's doctor in Omaha. NU assistant coach Charlie McBride, who

played one season with the Denver Broncos, also know Mills. "He says Jack is really good," Andrews said.

Mills served as an agent for former Cornhusker quarterback Vince Ferragamo, now with Los Angeles. He also has handled the Rams' No. 1 draft choice in four of the past five seasons and has nine Ram clients.

The 41-year old attorney, a graduate of the University of Oklahoma Law School and former assistant athletic director at Colorado, depends on referrals for his business. It was through Andrews that he met Clark and Cotton. "My clients have been very loyal, and I like that because you can't buy that kind of publicity," Mills said.

Andrews said he was contacted by over 50 agents; in a single Monday night, he counted seven phone calls from people who offered their services as agents.

The situation got so bad for Richard Berns that he was forced to request an unlisted phone number. He waited until after the draft to search for an agent, but Berns wasn't going into negotiations with Tampa Bay without one. "I don't believe I have the experience or the smarts to negotiate

where that kind of money is concerned," he said.

According to Mills, first-round players usually can demand more money, but it also helps to be the first player chosen at a particular position and there are always other factors to consider. He doesn't try to convince his clients that they will become instant millionaires.

"I've been in this business 12 years, and you've got to be realistic. The worst thing you can do as an agent is to pump up kids about where they're going to be drafted and how much money they're going to get. I try to stay away from talking about money until they've been drafted because NFL teams are so different in their money policies," Mills said.

"I educate my clients; I try to give them a realistic appraisal," he said. "If I don't, I'm creating a monster. We'll have trouble negotiating, and chances are, the player will end up having trouble with the team once he signs."

Sometimes Mills and his client will take the initiative. Other times, he'll wait until he gets an offer, and then he'll respond.

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The negotiation becomes a carefully-researched game in which the best-prepared athletes can be big winners.

Mills says, nothing should be left to chance: "What you're dealing with is 28 organizations, and over a period of time, you develop preferences on how you deal with certain people. You don't ever want to come in low.

"I have a rule that's so very simple, but it's true. You can never get a better contract than your first offer, so you have to be prepared. Some people don't know the facts before they go in; they don't do their research. But once the negotiation starts, you can't stop and say, 'Hey, let's start this over.' It just doesn't work that way," Mills said.

However it works, he was ready when contract talks for Andrews, Clark and Cotton began. Mills has done his research, and he's certainly familiar with Los Angeles and Denver.

"I have a rapport with the Broncos, where I know I can get in there on a serious basis right away," Mills said.

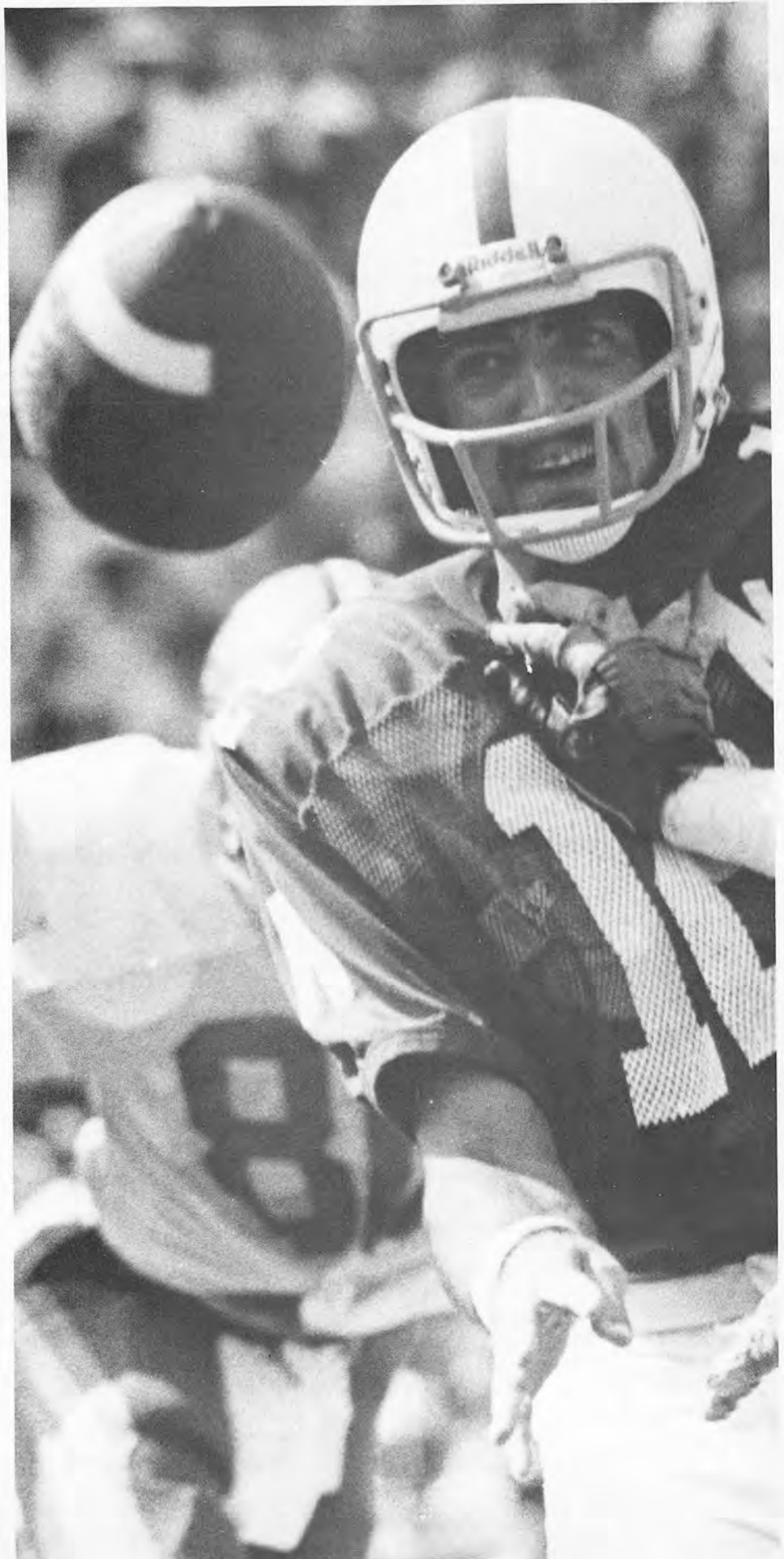
That prospect had Kelvin Clark grinning like he had just been on "Let's Make a Deal" and chosen the "big door." By 3 p.m. on Thursday, May 3, Clark and his teammates, Andrews and Cotton, were sitting in the lounge inside the south end of Memorial Stadium, smiling for the local media at a press conference to announce what everyone already knew.

Steve Pederson, an assistant in the NU Sports Information Office, looked over at the trio and said: "All year those guys have been coming in the office, just stopping by to talk, and you know, they're super-nice kids; that's what's so amazing."

Nothing had changed except that at that point, those super-nice kids, those college students who were a little bigger and faster than most of the students at Nebraska, had been drafted into the National Football League and faced the prospect of earning lots of money.

Kelvin Clark was flying to Denver the next day for a press conference. And George Andrews? Well, George Andrews the graduate student had three exams for which to study and a term paper to complete . . . a Masters Degree in business might come in handy some day when he tries to manage his money.

"It will help me decide what to do with it," Andrews said. A big smile crossed his face. ★



**Quarterback Tom Sorley is one of three Huskers who will probably sign as free agents. Bruce Dunning and Billy Todd are the others.**

Ted Kirk photo



## RICK REYNOLDS —

# DESTINED TO BE A HUSKER

by Rodney Von Busch

Rick Reynolds may not think it was destiny which led him to become a star Nebraska athlete, but there are probably some Cornhusker football fans who could have predicted it.

After all, Rick's father was Bob Reynolds, a Nebraska halfback in the early 1950s who made the Reynolds name a household word among Husker fans then. Those same fans might have been looking for great things from the son of Nebraska's sixth all-time leading ball carrier.

Rick's athletic background might have supported the destiny theory. He was a three-sport prep all-star while at Lincoln Southeast High School.

But it's doubtful that anyone could have predicted the route Rick's athletic career would take before becoming a senior three-year letterman at Nebraska—and in golf, not football.

Rick participated in many sports in grade school, including football, basketball, baseball and golf. Baseball began to drop out of the picture in junior high school, when he began to find himself spending more and more time with a golf club in his hands.

Lincoln Southeast was less nine varsity letters by the time Rick graduated in 1974, having earned three numerals each in football, basketball and golf. He was named to the all-city team his final two years there as both a split end in football and a center in basketball, and was all-city for three seasons in golf.

The spring of 1974 was decision time for the younger Reynolds. In spite of his impressive football and basketball credentials, Rick decided to commit himself to college golf.

That still left the question of where to attend school. The simple answer would have been for Rick to enroll at Nebraska, but instead he walked on at Oklahoma State in the fall of 1974.

"I know it would seem that my dad would insist that I go to Nebraska," Rick said, "and it's true that he would have liked to see me go there. But going to Oklahoma State was fine with him, too. Dad was great about the whole thing.

"Dad has never pushed me to do anything that I didn't want to do," Rick added. "He has always encouraged me to do what I thought was best. Oklahoma State had a great climate for golf, and I got expert help

from the coaching staff." Rick had other reasons for going, too.

"OSU is one of the top golf teams in the country, and I also wanted to get out on my own for a while."

Rick's year on the Stillwater campus was not quite what he expected, however. He ended up playing more intramural basketball than golf. Most of his time with the golf team was spent practicing and not playing in tournaments. "My intention when I de-

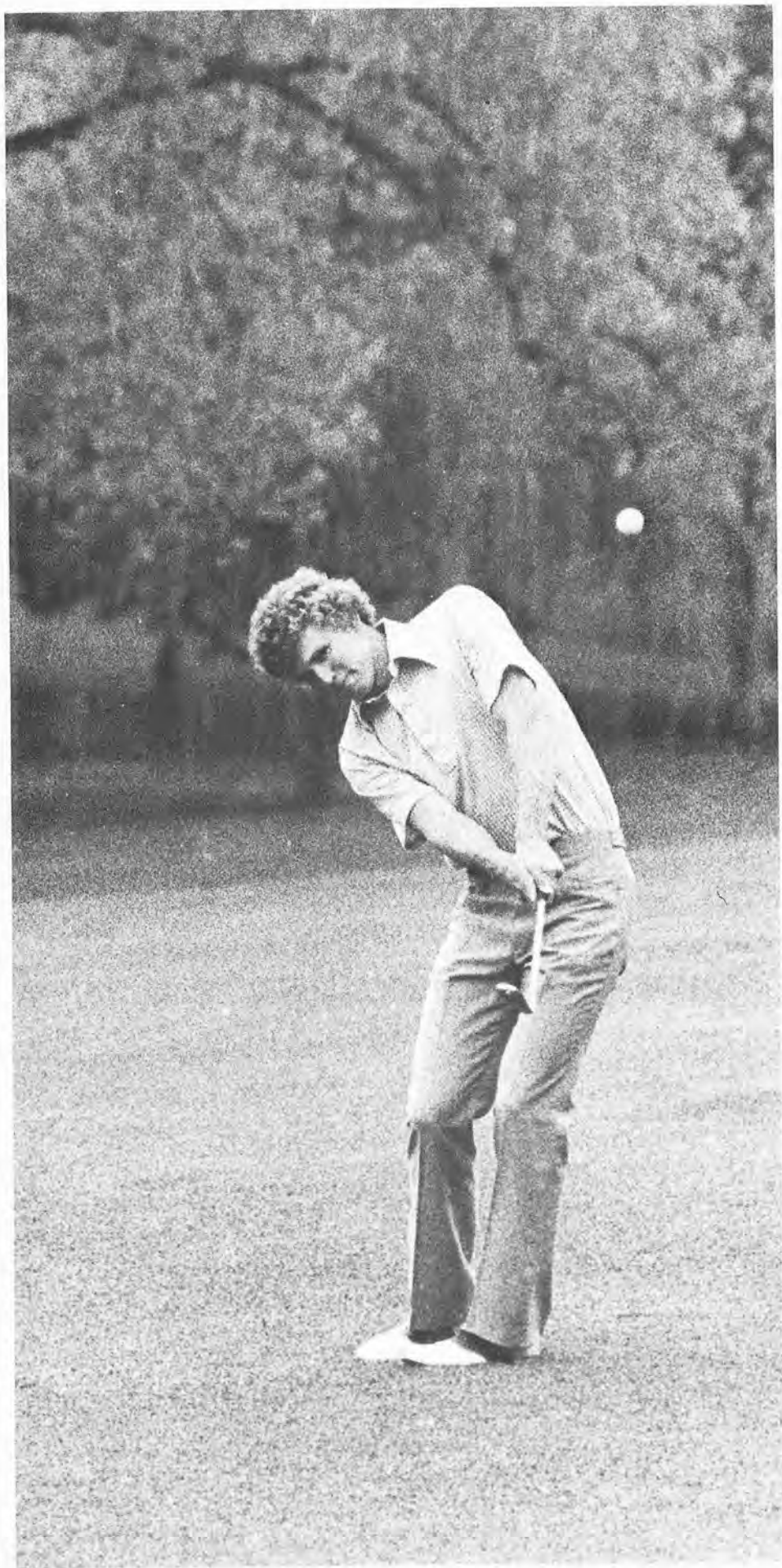
cided to go to Oklahoma State was to play a lot of golf," he said. "Instead I spent the year sitting around."

There was also something else bothering Rick. When he departed Lincoln, he also left behind his long-time girlfriend (and now wife), the former Margaret McCandless.

So Rick returned to Lincoln and enrolled at Nebraska for the 1975-76 school year.  
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In the conference meet this year, Rick tied for third. He shot a 75-74-75—224 for the tournament. Ted Kirk photo



Normally he would have had to sit out a year because of an NCAA rule regarding transfers, but because he was not on scholarship at Oklahoma State, Rick retained his freshman eligibility status at Nebraska.

Rick was finally able to fulfill his ambition of playing golf on the college level during his sophomore year at Nebraska. He earned a position and a scholarship on the golf team that season, and improved what he called the inconsistent game he played in high school.

Rick's desire for success at the collegiate level could be traced to his days at Southeast Lincoln, where his teams, which included Rick's current Nebraska teammate Steve Statton, were unable to capture the state high school title.

"I know other people might disagree with me," Rick said, "but I believe that for at least two of those years, we had the best team in the state. For several reasons, we were just not able to prove it."

Nebraska coach Larry Romjue didn't think Rick's high school frustrations were the result of any major problems.

"Rick just needed the opportunity to compete more," Romjue said. "Since coming to Nebraska, he's shown steady and dramatic improvement. Yet he still has to become more consistent. He's a solid performer though, one of three players who have carried the load for us this season." Statton and sophomore Knox Jones join Reynolds in that elite trio. All are Lincoln Southeast graduates.

Spring isn't the only season Rick devotes to golf. He also plays the amateur circuit in Nebraska during the summer. Last season, he won the Norfolk Invite and placed second in both the Fremont Invite and the Lincoln City Amateur Tournament. Rick averaged 76.2 strokes for 18 holes this season, second best on the Husker team whose success has improved consistently since he has been at Nebraska.

The Huskers were sixth in the Big 8 meet in 1976, placed fifth in the conference in 1977 and were runner-up last year, which led to a national tournament bid and Nebraska's 21st-place finish in the nation in 1978.

This season, after a slow start, the Huskers finished second at the Wheatshocker Invitational in Wichita, Kansas, April 19-20, two strokes ahead of Oklahoma State.

The next weekend, Romjue's squad captured its first tournament victory of the season with a commanding eight-stroke win over an 18-team field at the

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Ted Kirk photo

Oklahoma State was not the place for Reynolds so he came back home. This year with his help the team finished third in the conference meet.



Drake Relays Invitational. Steve Statton led the Huskers with a fourth-place finish overall, while Reynolds was fifth.

The win at Drake sent the Huskers into the Big 8 tournament May 3-4 at Lawrence, Kansas, with the goal of repeating their second-place finish and receiving another bid to the national tournament.

Nebraska finished third, however, but Reynolds had an excellent meet, recording scores of 75-74-75 for a total of 224 and

third place in the individual standings. So although the Husker team won't make the trip to Wake Forest May 22-26, Rick will have a chance to close out his collegiate career with a flair.

Rick already has plans for his future following graduation. He'd like to move to Kansas City to find a job as an assistant golf pro.

"I want to make golf my life," Rick said. "But I also want to be realistic about it. Today, good players are plentiful, and you

really have to be exceptional to make it on the pro tour. If I'm going to stay with golf, it's probably going to have to be as a course pro."

Rick Reynolds may not have achieved the gridiron destiny others thought was his. But, as his father explained, "you have to encourage your children to do things for themselves. You can't push them into things that only you want them to do."

And Rick has proven that sometimes that approach can work out just fine. ★

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**John Sanders:**

# A Portrait of Success

by Bill Bennett

**"Believe in yourself."** That one-liner has accompanied John Sanders throughout his 33 years. The philosophy is a combination of what Whitey Herzog of the Kansas City Royals and what his father and mother taught to this talented head baseball coach. The slogan has been used as a motivator not only for Sanders, but also for his University of Nebraska baseball team.

Sanders was born November 20, 1945 in Grand Island, Nebraska, and spent his early life in Newark and Kearney where he first encountered baseball by way of Little League. John moved back to Grand Island at age 10.

For the next nine years, John Sanders dazzled the Grand Island scenery with his many athletic conquests. In the early 60's, he was a star pitcher-outfielder for the city's American Legion baseball team. His athletic prowess continued to grow and during the 1963-64 school year he was named first team All-State quarterback and basketball guard-forward. He also set a state record in the discus that year with a toss of 169'4½".

Coaching came early in Sanders' life and by the time he was in the 11th grade he was the coach of a 9th grade YMCA basketball team. He took his team to the state tournament in Lincoln and there they won the YMCA Junior High Championship. Even though very few people remember that accomplishment, it was a real turning point in John's life.

"At that time," he recalls, "I first realized the happiness and enjoyment I got from working with youth."

With such athletic as well as leadership qualities, John faced a problem as it came time to graduate from high school. On one side, Bob Devaney wanted him to come to Nebraska and play football. Devaney was

(continued)

Senior co-captain John Russo is one of the reasons for the Huskers new-found success. He led the team in stolen bases this year.

Ted Kirk photo





offering a full-ride scholarship if the young Sanders would attend. Alternately, John could sign a professional baseball contract, get some money and experience, and bypass his education.

Sanders made up his mind on the night he graduated from high school. Whitey Herzog, then a scout with the Kansas City A's, came to Sanders' home and in front of his parents he signed a substantial contract with the A's.

Sanders played professional baseball as an outfielder for the next five years. He started with the Rookie and Instructional Leagues in 1964. At the young age of 19 he spent the early months of 1965 with the parent Kansas City A's. His teammates were such baseball notables as pitcher Jim 'Catfish' Hunter and Joe Rudi, who were also climbing through the baseball ranks. From May 1965 until 1968, Sanders played the spectrum of minor league ball as he moved through the A and AAA system. Finally, after much shuffling, he ended up in High Point, North Carolina in 1968. This stop was to be his last stop as a professional ballplayer.

Even though he had bypassed an education at Herzog's request, Sanders knew that he would need that education once his playing days were over. So during the off-season he went to the University of Northern Colorado, thanks to the Kansas City A's, who were picking up his expenses. He began classes in 1965, got a B.A. in 1969 and a Masters in 1970.

While at school in Colorado, Sanders was also coaching as a graduate assistant under Peter Butler for the UNC team. He also was an assistant coach for the University High School squad. It was in Colorado that Sanders found out what he wanted to do in the future: coach.

Sanders moved to Chemeketa Community College in Salem, Oregon, seeking a head coaching job. There he took a non-scholarship program from nothing and led them to respectability with a 13-13 record in 1974.

In 1974 he became an assistant at Arizona Western College in Yuma. This position lasted only half a season however, because in the latter half he was promoted to head coach. While he was at Western, the Matadors continued to improve. The team posted a 34-17 record in 1976 and went to the regional junior college playoffs.

An old friend called Sanders at the end of the 1976 campaign. Bob Devaney had moved from coach to athletic director in the same manner that Sanders had moved from player to a coach. Devaney called to inquire if John was interested in the Nebraska baseball assistant coaching job that had been vacated when Bob Gates took the head post at Nebraska-Omaha.

This time Sanders accepted Devaney's offer and, with the beginning of the 1977 season, John was in a Big Red uniform.

During that campaign, Nebraska set a school record for the most wins in a season with 29 and the program looked to be on the upswing. With the retirement of long-time head coach Tony Sharpe, that record would be short lived. Sanders, the young man who in 1964 had turned down a Bob Devaney offer to play football, accepted a Devaney offer to become the head baseball coach for the Huskers.

Since then, Nebraska baseball under Sanders and his two assistants, Ron Johnette and Dave Underwood, has skyrocketed to unbelievable heights.

In his first year, 1978, Nebraska won 36 games. Dugouts and an AstroTurf infield were added to the Husker diamond — the only such facilities in the entire Big 8. Things were definitely on the upswing and John Sanders was one of the big reasons for the turnaround.

In the 1979 season the Huskers have been nothing short of phenomenal. The team is on course to win 50 games, capture the Big 8 title, host or be invited to an NCAA regional tournament and possibly reach the loftiest position in college baseball — the College World Series in Omaha. Ironically, for a school rich in athletic tradition and the site of an annual college spectacle being an hours drive away, the Huskers have never played in the College World Series.

Comfort and a convenient place to watch the games have given NU the impetus to improve the facilities at the baseball field. A new stadium, christened Buck Beltzer Field, has been built. The new structure includes permanent bleachers, press box, concessions and rest rooms. According to Sanders, long range plans for Beltzer field include locker rooms and showers located under the bleachers and the addition of lights for night games.

How does John Sanders, now married and the father of two children, feel about the rapid rise of the Husker program? Also, how does he see his growth from a high school athlete of great promise through his professional days and finally to his days as a coach?

To find out these answers and to give you a better feeling for the personality of the man responsible for the Huskers success, we sent a reporter to talk with the head coach. The following story was filed:

NEB: When you first arrived at Nebraska, did you have any indication that in two short years you would achieve such success with the team?

JS: Two years ago it would have been tough to say we expected it. Out of one side of mouth I'd say yes, but out of the other I'd probably have had to say no.

Still, after looking at our junior college recruiting year when I first got here, my projection for them as seniors in 1979 was very good. We wanted to be competitive in our league after two years; but just how competitive we didn't know. A lot depends on the way the team comes together. It's hard to say this is what we expected, but after seeing the team workout last fall and the leadership that we got from players like John (Russo) and Val (Primante) I'm not really surprised at the results this season. Our players believe in our program. It means something to them to play well and win. They never want to quit because they believe in themselves.

NEB: What were your goals in your first year as head coach?

JS: First and foremost I wanted to go out and convince the players that we were going to develop a baseball program of respectability at Nebraska. This was going to be done by better scheduling, attractive road trips, upgrading the facilities and getting the word out that something was happening here so that we could start recruiting the good players. Secondly, we wanted to maintain a level of consistency while continually improving the program.

NEB: Seeing your success so far, you must be pleased with the program's progress?

JS: I'm happy with the timetable. If we finish the year on a strong note, like we should, then we're on schedule with where we want to be with our program. I feel good about it, but I'm happier for our players because we demand a lot from them. I'm also happy for Ron (Johnette) and Dave (Underwood) because they have contributed a lot of time and effort. Bob (Devaney) has given us the athletic department's support and that is so essential in building a program. Also, our boosters have come a long way with us and it is great to give them a winning team. It's these people who make you feel good when you think about the development of the program.

NEB: Knowing the success you were having at Arizona Western and the problems Nebraska was having in baseball, was it difficult to leave and become the assistant coach here?

JS: Bob Devaney made my decision easy. I had a good job at Arizona Western. The facilities were good and we had had a fine recruiting year, but I felt that the NU job was a step up. Bob showed me at the time that the Nebraska program was

(continued on page 18)

**John Sanders is only in his third year as the Husker head coach but already he has made the team winners. Besides their record-setting season he has also improved scheduling and facilities.** Ted Kirk photo







continually striving for better players, scheduling and facilities. He continues to show this to me today. After visiting with Bob, it became clear to me that I should take the Nebraska assistant's job.

NEB: Going back to the early 60's at Grand Island, how were you able to attract the attention of pro scouts when you didn't even have a high school team in the town?

JS: Basically, I grew up with a baseball in my hand. We played summer Legion ball in Grand Island and there were always two or three scouts in our area. Joe McDermott of the Yankees was one and so was Whitey Herzog. The older players in the area attracted the scouts. We got a look because we were on the team too. In 1961, we had a good group of athletes on our team and about six of us had signed on with the profes-

sionals within the next four or five years. NEB: In 1964, you were named the Nebraska prep athlete-of-the-year. You had to decide between a Nebraska football scholarship and professional baseball. Why did you choose the pro's?

JS: The overriding thing for me was the decision whether to go to college and play two or three sports or give it my best shot at one sport. Nebraska football was on the way up and Devaney was looking for a quarterback who could throw. I was a logical candidate. But, Whitey Herzog was the influencing factor in my decision to turn professional. He was very honest and sincere. He knew what a young player needed. I signed for a substantial amount and that took care of me financially. Whitey backed and supported me all the way.

NEB: Many players would have taken the

money and run while never opening a textbook or giving a thought to the future. What prompted you to get a degree?

JS: The night that I signed my baseball contract, with my folks there, I made a commitment to myself to go to college. Since I had turned down a full scholarship to Nebraska, the A's took care of my college expenses. At that time I had a feeling I wanted to be a coach and I knew that I would need a college degree in order to do that.

NEB: Was it difficult for you to abandon your professional baseball career?

JS: In my last two years of pro ball I went from double AA to A. I had to decide whether I wanted to just keep bouncing from team to team or if I wanted to continue my education and enter coaching. Based on where I was at that time in pro ball, I decided to stay in college and pursue coaching. It was a difficult decision, but I knew it would work out for the best.

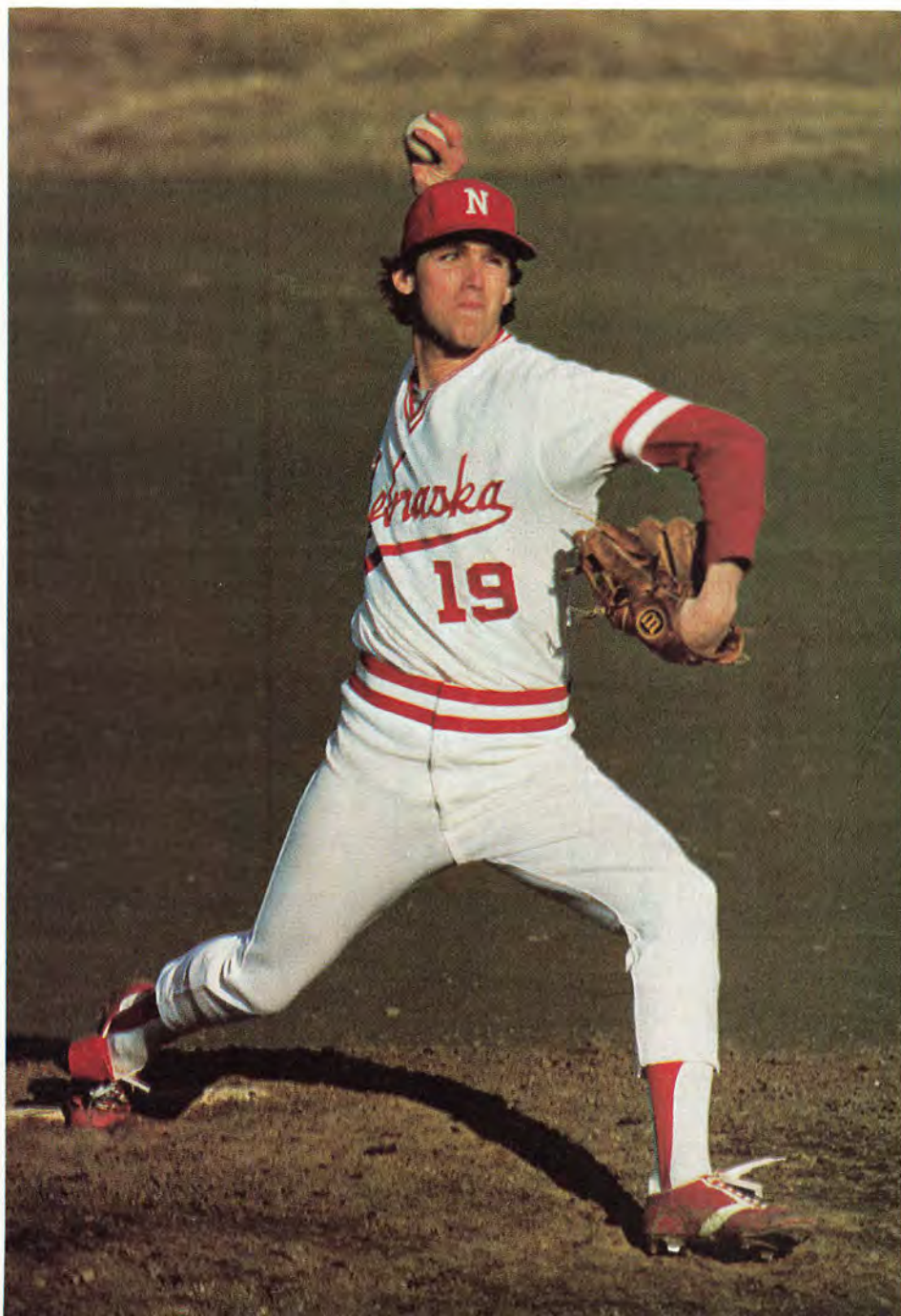
NEB: Did anybody help influence you into following a coaching career?

JS: Whitey Herzog had a big influence on me. His treatment of players and his dealings with youth really impressed me. He was also able to get maximum effort and mileage out of his players. Look at the Royals last year for example. They were riddled with injuries but Whitey still engineered them into the playoffs. My father also gave me that positive, 'you can do it' feeling that is so important in coaching. Your father can be your worst or your best coach. My father was an excellent teacher and instructor.

NEB: Overall, things have worked out well for you. Are you satisfied?

JS: Yes, but you should never be too satisfied. To steadily improve, you must never be completely satisfied. You always want to recruit better players, improve scheduling, cut down on mistakes. When you feel comfortable you can't sit still. Year in and year out, you have to try and further improve on your accomplishments.

With a year like the Huskers have just recently completed, John Sanders has taken a big leap forward with his goals of a few years ago. He believed in himself and he convinced the players of a down-trodden baseball program to do the same. He took ordinary players and made them champions, he took an ordinary field and with the help of the Beltzer family, it was made into a fan's delight. Baseball is on its way up at Nebraska, believe it — John Sanders has for a long time now. ★



Senior pitcher Tim Pettit (5-2, 3.70 ERA) has had big wins this season over USC, Kansas State, Oklahoma and Iowa State.

Ted Kirk photo



# 20,000 See Red-White Battle

by Mike Babcock

It was a good day for signing autographs. Even though wind gusts up to 25-mph caused papers to flap and occasionally made writing difficult, the sun was shining and temperatures were in the 70's.

Richard Berns leaned against the fence along the west sideline in Memorial Stadium, the focus for a group of children waving pens and programs. The children seemed oblivious to what was going on behind him as he signed scraps of paper or whatever else they could find to push his way.

The 30th annual University of Nebraska spring football game had just moved into its second half when Berns began writing. The three previous springs, he had participated in the Red-White battle, carrying the ball 28 times for 148 yards and a touchdown. Twice his team won.

Those games had been important to him because they signaled the end of another season of spring drills. But by Saturday, May 5, Berns had completed his senior season and had become Nebraska's all-time leading career rusher in the process.

A third-round draft pick by Tampa Bay of the National Football League, his celebrity had not diminished, and he continued to sign autographs until the middle of the fourth quarter.

When the game was over and the Red team had won 27-13, senior-to-be Paul Letcher said it was one of the most relaxed football afternoons he had spent since coming to Nebraska from Lincoln Northeast High School.

Letcher used spring drills to earn himself the No. 1 left cornerback spot, and by the final Saturday, the pressure had subsided as much as it could for someone who had walked on and never moved higher than the second unit in four previous seasons as a Cornhusker.

Letcher signed a few autographs before leaving the field to take his final shower of spring practice.

Jarvis Redwine used spring drills to establish himself as a transfer worthy of playing football for Nebraska. He came to the Cornhuskers after one season at

Oregon State and spent the fall on the scout squad as an I-back.

"The coaches here want to know why you transferred; they wonder if something is wrong with you, and you have to show everybody you're capable," Redwine said.

When he was timed in :04.4 for 40 yards

at the end of winter conditioning, people took notice of the 6-0, 195-pound running back from Inglewood, Calif. After each week's scrimmage, interest grew, and Redwine's name became more familiar to Cornhusker fans. It became clear that nothing

(continued on page 22)



Junior Jeff Quinn (11) barely gets a pass off over the outstretched hand of middle guard Felix White (54) in action May 5th.

Ted Kirk photo













Dean Sukup gets away a field goal over the diving block attempt of freshman defensive back Phil Trent. On the day Sukup kicked field goals of 27 and 52 yards.

Ted Kirk photo

(continued from page 19)

was wrong with Redwine.

He capped his spring in the Red-White game by rushing 16 times and gaining 94 yards for the winning side. Redwine also scored the day's final touchdown, going one yard over right guard to cap an 80-yard drive directed by quarterback Jeff Quinn.

That series, which began late in the third quarter and culminated in the fourth, featured a 15-yard pass completion from Quinn to tight end Jeff Finn and a 14-yard end-run by Redwine. It was, perhaps, the highlight of the spring game because it showed that the process of rebuilding one of college football's most potent offenses was well underway.

Redwine thought about his recently-won fame and new-found home as he began to shed his equipment in the South Stadium lockerroom. "This was home the minute I decided to pick up roots and leave Oregon State," he said as he signed autographs for some youthful fans. It was a good day for signing.

It was also a good day for watching, and the 20,000-plus fans who showed up for that purpose got their money's worth this season. Nebraska head coach Tom Osborne decided to add five minutes to

the second and third quarters, which not only increased the possibility that Berns would get writer's cramp but also gave the NU coaching staff the opportunity to watch more players than they might have otherwise.

"It allowed us to get down-the-line players into the game," said Osborne. "I think just about everybody who was out for spring ball (and still free of injury) got to play some."

Among others, that did not include I-back Isaiah Hipp, wingback Kenny Brown, or defensive tackle Dan Pensick, all of whom are among the top two units.

Of prime concern for Osborne was the battle for the No. 1 quarterback spot among a half-dozen candidates, and the extra 10 minutes gave him the chance to see each of the six under game conditions.

Spring practice began with a question mark at the position filled so ably by Tom Sorley during the '78 season. By the spring game, that question mark remained, but Jeff Quinn appeared to have gained an edge.

He and sophomore-to-be Mark Mauer had the best afternoons. Quinn directed the Reds, scrambling for 39 yards and completing 5-of-8 passes for 79 yards. When Redwine's one noticeable mistake —

he fielded the second half kick-off and went out-of-bounds inside his own one-yard line — put the Reds in big trouble, Quinn came out throwing from his own end zone and completed a 36-yard pass play to veteran split receiver Tim Smith.

Mauer had a hand in the afternoon's longest play from scrimmage when he completed a pass to Todd Brown for 52 yards, which led to the Whites' first score, a 29-yard field goal by Tim Bergkamp.

He opened the Whites' next series with a 19-yard completion to Scott Woodard and capped a 50-yard drive with a one-yard touchdown plunge.

"Quinn and Mauer appeared to have the best days at quarterback, but all of them had some good plays," Osborne said.

The Husker head coach now will go about the task of reviewing the reels of film taken during spring drills to evaluate Quinn, Mauer, Tim Hager, Bruce Mathison, Steve Michaelson, and Chris Gebert. Osborne must narrow the list to "three or four" in order to get his quarterbacks enough repetition during fall practice.

(continued on page 24)

Randy Landwehr (27) flies through the air to pick up yardage. Ted Kirk photo









A big surprise in the spring game was the running of Jarvis Redwine (12). He picked up 94 yards on 16 carries and had two kickoff returns totaling 25 yards. He was the leading ball carrier on the day. Ted Kirk photo

(continued from page 22)

But that very pressing question may still be secondary to the one which concerns the offensive line. Three players who held down that front last fall were scooped up in the first six rounds of the NFL draft; only guard John Havekost and center Kelly Saalfeld entered spring drills with significant playing experience. Both have earned two letters.

Havekost, who went through the spring 20 pounds heavier and a step faster than he was last fall, says his new line mates got plenty of repetition during the spring.

"I'm not concerned," he said before the spring game. "It's tough to step into this system. I don't think anybody in the country could just come here and step into an offensive line position."

Dan Steiner began the spring at No. 1 left tackle and remained there heading into the Red-White game. Randy Schleusener was the No. 1 right guard for all but one week, and Mike Bruce remained at

the top right tackle spot after earning it the first week.

Osborne says Bruce, a 6-7, 243-pounder from Omaha Burke, may be the most improved Cornhusker.

"We went into the spring hunting for offensive tackles, and we're still hunting. Bruce has played the best and has been a pleasant surprise. Dan Steiner's ahead on the other side, but it's still wide open. Mark Goodspeed has done some good things. Dan Hurley has come on strong. Gary England has a chance, and Dan Rice has been good at times," Osborne said. "Everybody just needs more consistency."

"I don't think we're there yet as far as the offensive line is concerned, but we have the potential," he said.

The receiving corps is competitive behind tight end Junior Miller, wingback Kenny Brown, and split receiver Tim Smith; Andra Franklin and Jim Kotera are 1-2 at fullback, and the emergence of Redwine

has eased Osborne's mind about the I-back situation. Isaiah Hipp, an incumbent, has put together back-to-back, 1,000-yard seasons and should become Nebraska's all-time leading career rusher next fall, and "if I had to rank-order them right now, Hipp would be first because he has the experience," Osborne said.

Junior-to-be Craig Johnson would start for most teams in the Big Eight. In the first half of the spring game, he carried six times for 28 yards. Then Johnson switched to a red jersey and scored on a 15-yard burst off right guard in the third quarter to ensure that NU fans won't forget him over the summer.

Walter Wallace, who came from Aviano, Italy, to walk on as an I-back and fame as a freshman on the Nebraska junior varsity, scored the spring game's other touchdown on a two-yard run midway through the lengthened second quarter.

(continued)



Spring drills began with fewer question marks on defense, and that situation was re-affirmed in the Red-White game. The defensive line was credited with 10 sacks for a total loss of 112 yards. NU assistant coach Charlie McBride, who handles the defensive interior, seems to have stock-piled tackles, including Pensick, David Clark, Brian Hedrick, who was injured, and Henry Waechter, a red-shirt candidate.

Rod Horn and Bill Barnett held the No. 1 spots there throughout the spring.

Veteran ends Derrie Nelson and Lawrence Cole had good springs as did middle guard Kerry Weinmaster; and potentially good linebackers seemed as abundant as defensive tackles with the return of Brent Williams and Tom Vering and the emergence of John Ruud and Kim Baker.

Cornhusker defensive co-ordinator Lance Van Zandt says his players have shown they like to hit. "I liked our effort; I liked our attitude; and I like our experience. We just need some work in the secondary. Russell Gary and Andy Means have seen a lot of snaps and a lot of arenas, but they're the only ones," Van Zandt said.

Mark LeRoy established himself as Jim Pillen's replacement at monster back, but he still needs more game experience.

The same is true of Dean Sukup, the heir-apparent to Billy Todd's place-kicking job. The portly Sukup added three extra points and field goals of 27 and 52 yards to the Red cause in the spring game.

Sukup has yet to kick a field goal in regular-season competition, but he had at least one in each of the three previous Red-White spring battles, including another 52-yarder in 1976 and a 30-yard effort with 19 seconds remaining to produce a 14-13 White victory in 1978.

In addition to Bergkamp's successful 29-yarder, Donnie Kirk kicked a 28-yard field goal for this year's White team. Even Kirk, who will be a sophomore, had time to sign a few autographs for some eager young fans during the third quarter of the spring game.

Everyone, right down to the lower unit kickers, was getting into the act. After speaking with his team and meeting some potential recruits in the north fieldhouse, Tom Osborne stepped onto the track under the North Stadium.

A large woman with a little boy spotted the NU head coach. "There's Tom Osborne . . . get his autograph. That'll make up for missing George Andrews, won't it?" the lady said as she dragged the boy across the track.

It was a good day for signing autographs, and her son was about to get the best one of all whether he wanted it or not. ★

## RED-WHITE GAME STATISTICS

### NEBRASKA SCORING SUMMARY

Reds	3	10	7	7	—	27
Whites	3	10	0	0	—	13

#### First Quarter

Red	White	
3	0	Sukup 27 field goal
3	3	Bergkamp 29 field goal

#### Second Quarter

3	10	Mauer 1 run
10	10	Wallace 2 run
10	13	Kirk 28 field goal
13	13	Sukup 52 field goal

#### Third Quarter

20	13	Johnson 15 run
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#### Fourth Quarter

27	13	Redwine 1 run
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### RED OFFENSE

	No.	Yds.	Avg.
Quinn	8	39	4.7
Franklin	9	31	3.4
Redwine	16	94	5.9
Landwehr	3	3	1.0
Kotera	4	20	5.0
Hager	10	-11	-1.1
Wallace	6	24	4.0
Zobel	2	6	3.0
Telly	5	14	2.8
Michaelson	9	15	1.7
Johnson	2	20	10.0

#### Passing

	No.	Com.	Yds.	PI
Quinn	8	5	79	0
Hager	8	3	30	1
Michaelson	8	5	56	1

#### Pass Receiving

	No.	Yds.
Miller	2	14
Smith	2	15
Bush	4	34
Finn	2	20
Huebert	2	35
Gibson	1	12

#### Punting

	No.	Yds.	Avg.
Smith	7	273	39.0

#### Kickoff Returns

	No.	Yds.
McCrary	2	46
Redwine	2	25
Bush	1	47

### Pass Interceptions

	No.	Yds.
lodence	1	-3

### WHITE OFFENSE

#### Rushing

	No.	Yds.	Avg.
Gebert	2	-13	-6.5
Knoll	1	-3	-3.0
Mauer	6	-14	-2.3
Johnson	6	28	4.7
Hunt	2	3	1.5
Keith	5	22	4.4
Moravec	1	3	3.0
Mathison	6	7	1.0
Bates	3	7	2.3
Landwehr	3	6	2.0
Krejci	1	-18	-18.0
McCrary	1	1	1.0
Voir	1	10	10.0

#### Passing

	No.	Com.	Yds.	PI
Mauer	10	4	92	0
Mathison	8	4	61	1
Gebert	9	2	37	0
Knoll	4	1	19	0

#### Pass Receiving

	No.	Yds.
Brown	3	97
Woodward	3	40
Vergith	1	19
McCrary	1	18
Hill	1	8
Wehrle	1	18
Davies	1	19

#### Punting

	No.	Yds.	Avg.
Gemar	7	282	40.3

#### Punt Returns

	No.	Yds.
Nyden	1	3
Steels	1	9
Gerlach	2	15

#### Kickoff Returns

	No.	Yds.
Steels	1	17
Moravec	1	3
Keith	1	9

### Pass Interceptions

	No.	Yds.
Krejci	1	27
Searcy	1	9

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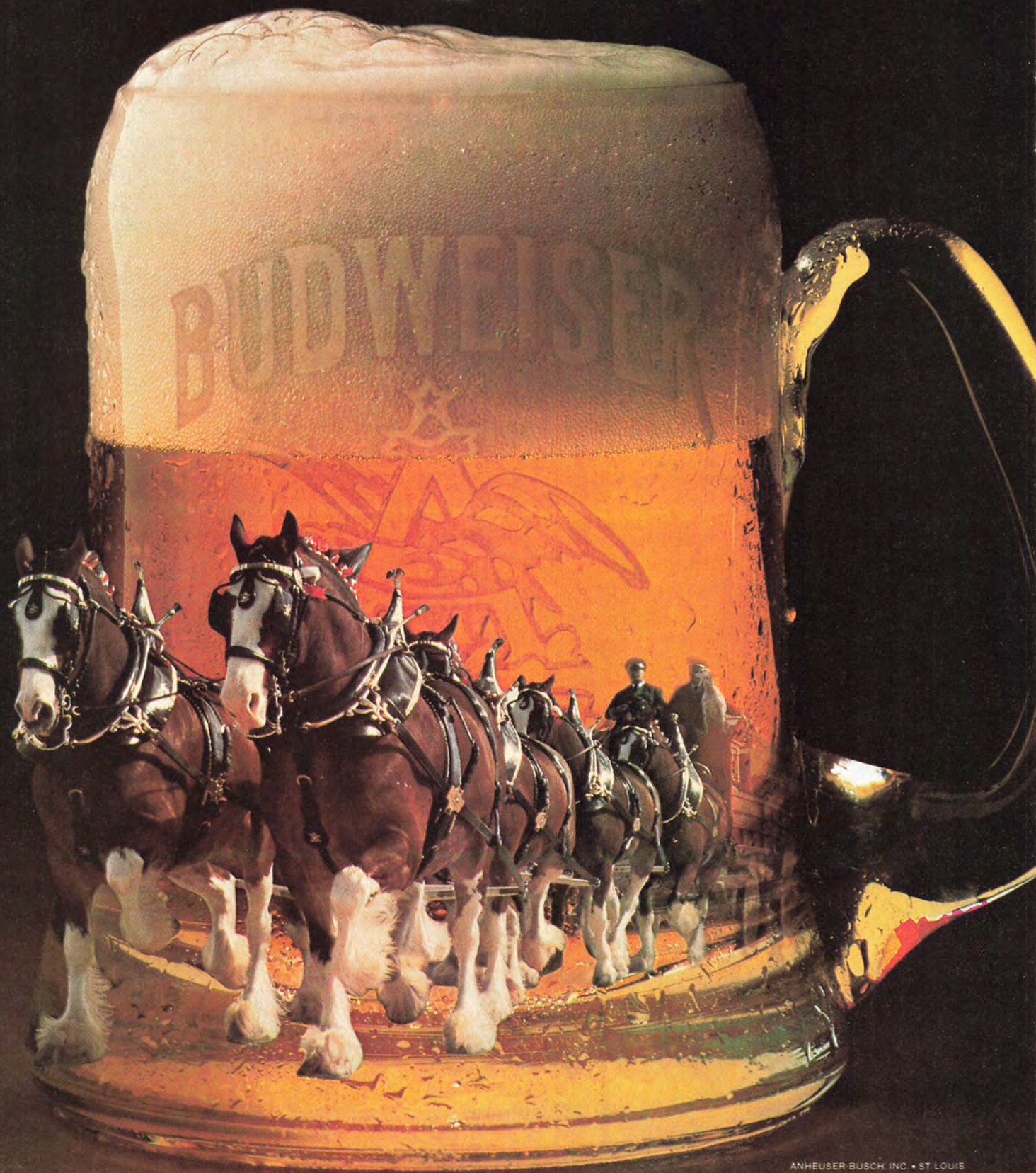
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## HISTORY OF HUSKER SPORTS —

# WEIR'S TRADITION LIVES ON

by Don Bryant

Some 20,000 rabid Nebraska football fans gathered at Memorial Stadium on May 5 for the annual assessment of the new Cornhusker look. Several members of the throng were just as keen about surveying the 1979 talent as the others, but they were the "Old Guard" ... not the entire crew, to be sure, but the "Old Guard" was represented as usual.

Leading the "Old Guard" is the Patron Saint of Nebraska's All-Americans, Ed Weir. Each spring he marshals his forces for the intrasquad game, checks the roster and sets the order of march to the Elks Club for lunch. Then comes the hike to Memorial Stadium and the Spring Game.

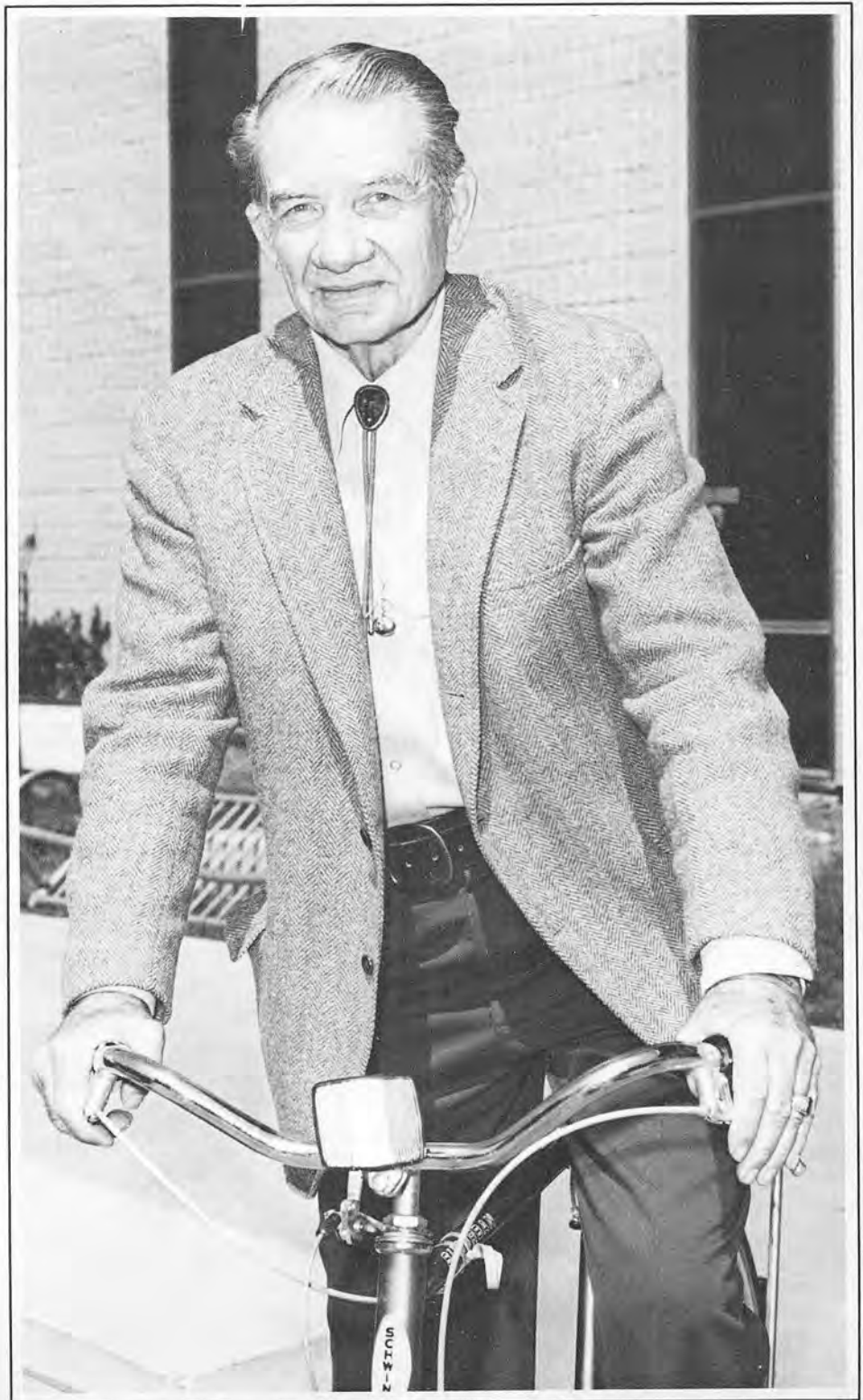
Weir's forces include some of NU's brightest warriors in the establishment of the Cornhusker tradition: John Selleck, the long-time business manager of athletics who became Chancellor; Carl Donaldson, former NU business manager who engineered Bob Devaney's secret visit to Lincoln during the 1961 coach hunt; Herb Gish, former NU athletic director in the 1928-1931 era; W.H. Browne, former Husker football and basketball coach; and Floyd Bottorff, the venerable "Colonel" of the NU athletic equipment department for almost 40 years.

It wasn't like the old days last May 5 because most of the group could not make the gathering, but Weir kept the tradition alive by joining Gish for lunch and the game.

"We had a slim turnout this year, but it's fun to get as many together as we can," Weir said. "All of us have seen a lot of Nebraska history and we enjoy remembering a lot of great events. Brownie didn't feel quite up to coming this year and Bottorff just got out of the hospital. John (Selleck) had a cold and Donaldson was out of town. So we didn't have a quorum, but Herb and I got together."

It's like Ed Weir to keep a tradition going, particularly when it involves something to do with the University of Nebraska. He's

(continued)



Ed Weir, Mr. Cornhusker Tradition, is still active in the NU sports program.



been Mr. Cornhusker Tradition around NU since his gridiron glory days way back in 1923-1924-1925. The Superior, Nebraska, native made football history as one of the first practitioners of the art of red-dogging, or blitzing, and during his brilliant playing career as a tackle he gained Hall of Fame status against the likes of Red Grange and the Four Horsemen of Notre Dame.

Memories tend to dim over the 44 years since the Cornhuskers clashed with Knute Rockne's fabled Irish of Notre Dame. But mention the name of Ed Weir to Jim Crowley or Judge Don Miller, the two surviving members of Rockne's Four Horsemen, and you'll get a solid demonstration of instant recall.

"Oh, Ed Weir, how is Ed?" both said during a dinner conversation at the dedication of the College Football Hall of Fame last summer.

"Nebraska took it to us for two years, but we beat them our senior year," Miller recalled. "I'll tell you, though, Ed Weir was a great player against us every time we met. He was really quick and it seemed like he was always in our backfield. Ed is a fine gentleman, too."

Actually, Weir was a junior—and captain—in 1924 when the Irish, led by the Four Horsemen, defeated the Huskers, 34-6. In his sophomore year, Nebraska had won 14-7, and in his senior season, 1925, the Cornhuskers won, 17-0, in the game that was to end the colorful series until after World War II.

"I think that the 1924 game was my best even though we lost," Weir will tell you. "That was a great Notre Dame team and they were almost unstoppable. I was all over the field making tackles that day and after the game Coach Rockne came to our locker room to speak to me."

As a consequence of his outstanding play, Weir was named to the All-America teams in both 1924 and 1925, thus becoming Nebraska's first two-time All-America. No one was to match that achievement until Wayne Meyland matched Weir's mark in 1966 and 1967. The select group has since been expanded to include Rich Glover (1971-72), Willie Harper (1971-72), Johnny Rodgers (1971-72), Daryl White (1972-73) and Rik Bonness (1974-75).

Weir's feat remains unchallenged, however, because in the Roarin' 20's most All-America teams were selected by the Eastern press and their eyes seldom

(continued)

(Right) Weir played football for Nebraska and competed against such immortals as Red Grange and the Four Horsemen. (Above) Besides being a football star, Ed also ran track for the Cornhuskers. He later returned to coach the team.





flashed west of Yale. Today's heroes get instant stardom via television, but in Ed's day it took magnificent performances to curry favor with Walter Camp. And remember, Weir was an All-America tackle who stood 6-0 and weighed 186 pounds—the same weight he carries today.

Ed Weir is proud of his All-America and Hall of Fame accomplishments, but he is also quick to credit Rockne for giving him a boost. In an interview with former University of Nebraska public relations director George Round, Weir said:

"Walter Camp was considered really the father of football. He was one of the Ivy League products and the old boy did a lot for football in the early days. But as he got older he still couldn't see much but the Ivy League. As football spread over the country, they began to look west and his last year before he passed away, there were two of us from west of the Mississippi, Ernie Nevers of Stanford and myself."

Weir also told Round, "That was my junior year, but a lot of it I always felt was due to the Rockne influence. Rockne and someone else also picked a team at that time."

Following graduation, Weir served as an end coach at his alma mater before former NU All-America Guy Chamberlin summoned him to play for the Philadelphia Yellow Jackets of the National Football League. Ed played three years of pro football before returning to Nebraska as an assistant to new coach D.X. Bible. He also served as an assistant to track coach Henry Schulte, then succeeded Schulte as head coach in 1939.

The Weir legend continued to grow during his tenure as the Husker track coach — 10 conference championships, a host of individual champions in many events, directorship of numerous national track meets and a tireless promoter of high school track and field.

Little wonder the University of Nebraska has honored its most famous and devoted football son by naming its beautiful new outdoor track facility the Ed Weir Track.

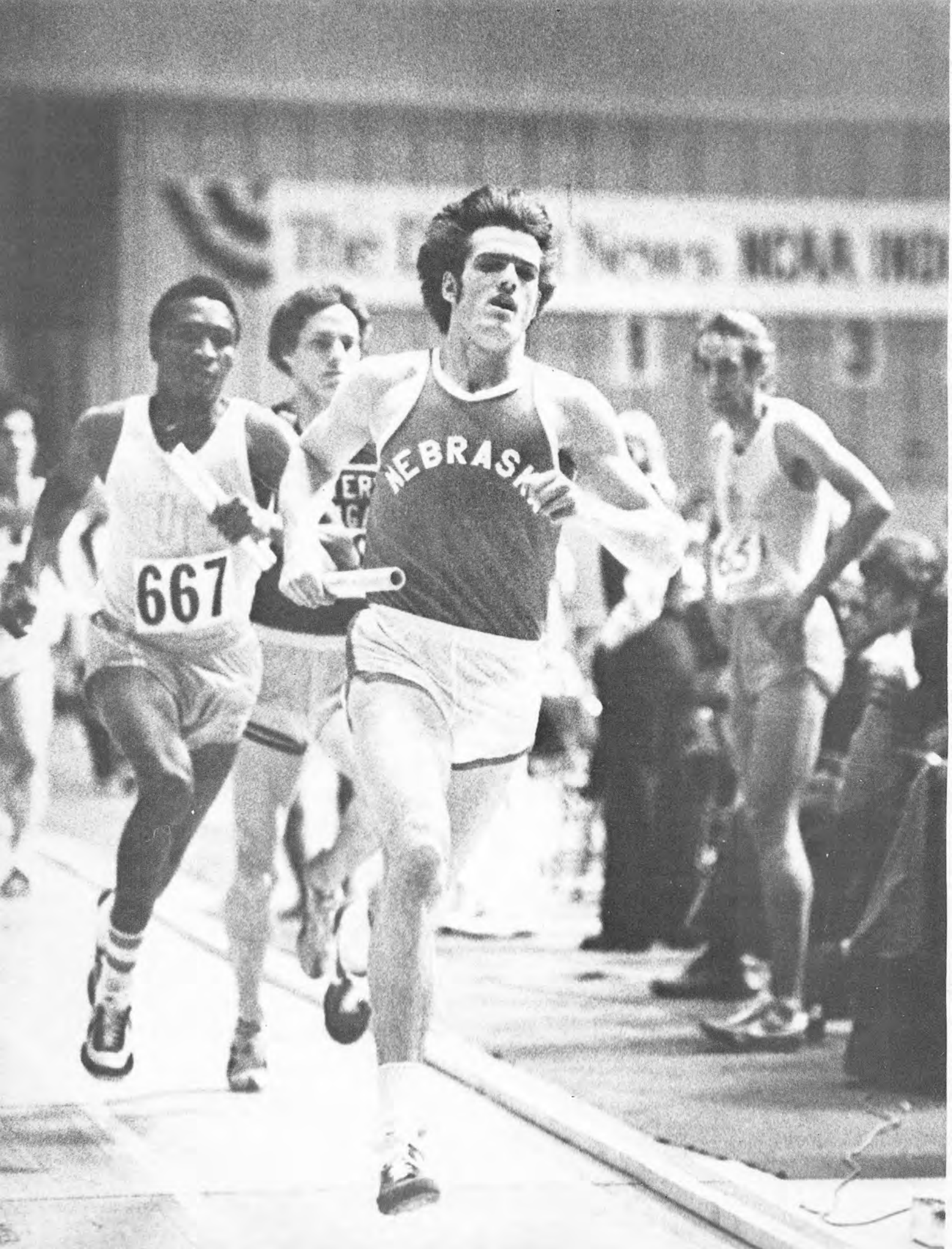
Still the recipient of fan mail long after his retirement, Ed Weir faithfully sings praises of his beloved University. And he loves to spin a yarn or two about "the old days," many of which will be passed along in future issues of NEBRASKA: Inside Cornhusker Sports.

And you can bet Ed is already planning for the 1980 Spring Football Game and the reunion with the "Old Guard." ★



(Right) As Nebraska head track coach, Weir brought ten conference championships to the school. (Above) For his accomplishments as a football player, Ed Weir was inducted into the National Football Foundation's Hall of Fame.







# POEHLING LEADS THE PACK

by Steve Pederson

When Scott Poehling was crossing the finish line at the Nebraska Boy's State Track meet about this time three years ago, people in the state were wondering just how good this three event gold medal winner was. Those people could never have guessed that in his junior season he would run the world's fastest time to date in the 800 meters. At the El Paso Invitational, Poehling ran ahead of a tremendous field to be clocked in 1:46.92, the top time in the world for 1979.

"It was one of those days where I just felt great. But, times and records are broken so quickly in track that I suppose it won't last long. It makes me feel good to know I can run that kind of race," comments the Fremont ace. "I have a lot of big races ahead of me, but beating the defending NCAA Champ (Peter Lemashon of UTEP) gives me a confidence that I can run with the best."

Poehling established himself as the premier middle distance runner in the Big 8 conference last year as a sophomore with a win in the Big 8 outdoor meet in the 800 meters in 1:48.28. This year he moved ahead of a strong field in the indoor 880-yard at the Big 8 meet to capture another conference championship.

Although he has had a tremendous season in '79, Poehling is not the only Husker that has excelled in the outdoor season. Sophomore pole vaulter Randy Raymond became the first Nebraskan in history to clear seventeen feet when he jumped 17-0½ against Iowa State. Part of the success Raymond has enjoyed this year comes as a result of his work with NU Assistant Dick Railsback. A former National Champion pole vaulter at UCLA, Railsback, who has a personal best of 17-8¾, has given Raymond the confidence he needs to become a consistent 16-6 to 17-0 jumper.

"Coach Railsback told me I could go 17-0 or 17-6 this year and I laughed at him. I didn't think it was possible at all," says the Fremont Star, "once I get my plant perfected, I don't know what will happen, but it really excites me."

When the season began for the Huskers, they thought they would be without the services of the 1978 Big 8 Indoor and Outdoor high jump champion Doug Phelps. Phelps is in his first year of physical therapy school at the NU Medical Center and had planned on a redshirt year. But "because I wasn't real sure where my internship would be next year, I thought that Omaha may have been the closest I would be to Lincoln again. I didn't want to miss out on my last year of jumping," said the Hastings native. Phelps is restricted in his workouts to, "most of the time just running and playing basketball because I don't have anywhere to jump during the week," he said. Doug has already been over 7-0¾ this season out-

doors and 7-1 indoors, qualifying for both the NCAA Outdoor last season and the National Indoor this season.

The Huskers have had some tough luck outdoors with illness. Two of the conference's top quartermilers, Ray Mahoney and Pat McKenzie, have been sidelined much of the season with viral illnesses, which put the reins on the sizzling NU mile relay. Mahoney is the defending Big 8 champion both indoors and outdoors in the 400-meter as well as serving as the team co-captain. The other Husker co-captain is senior Mark Fluitt, currently the Big 8's premier miler. Fluitt, the 1979 Big 8 indoor 1000-yard champion, has come from obscurity this year to establish himself in the Husker record book in both the indoor mile and the 1500-meter outdoor. A very versatile runner, he was one of the strong legs on the Husker's National Championship Two-Mile Relay.

(continued on page 33)



(Left) Scott Poehling runs the 800 for the Cornhuskers and to date (as of 5/15) has run the fastest time in the world for 1979, 1:46.92. (Right) High jumper Doug Phelps is in his first year of physical therapy school but has managed to find the time to qualify for the national indoor this season. Ted Kirk photos





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# AK-SAR-BEN RACES-OMAHA NOW THROUGH JULY 21



(continued from page 31)

Coach Frank Sevigne is quick to praise his co-captains. "Mahoney and Fluitt are the kind of captains that every coach asks for, they are not only great athletes, but they are the ones giving everybody that needed push in a tight situation. Not too many teams have both their captains win their event at the conference meet, that is great leadership."

Sevigne is in his 24th year at the head of the Husker track program. In his thirty years of track and field coaching, he has established himself as one of the country's leading middle distance coaches. The Two-Mile Relay team that he put together to win the National Indoor Championship consisted of three runners from the state of Nebraska and one from a little town in Massachusetts. A trip through the Nebraska track office, with pictures of Sevigne's conference and national champions hanging on the wall, indicates the success that Husker track has enjoyed over the years.

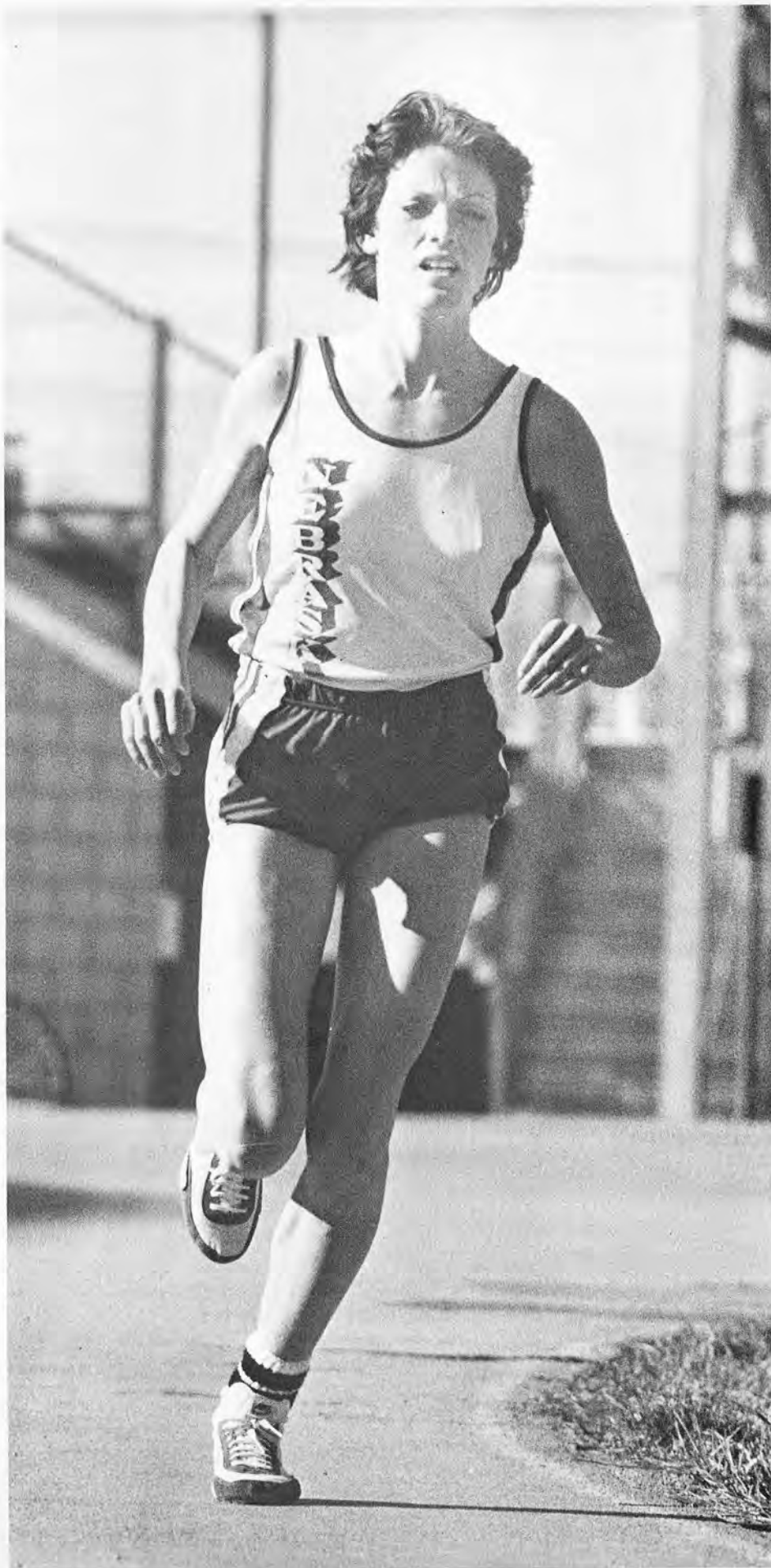
The Huskers have several additional stars who should prove to be contenders in the Big Eight this season. Defending discus champion Lee Kunz (192-8) is the top thrower in the midwest and has already qualified for the NCAA championships.

Sophomores Everton DaCosta and Randy Brooks are two other Huskers who are moving out fast in the outdoor season. DaCosta is the top man in both the 400 Intermediate hurdles and the 400-meter right now. A versatile athlete, DaCosta has lead the NU relays in everything from the 400 to the 800 as well as the hurdles. Brooks, an NCAA indoor 60-yard high hurdle qualifier, is among the conference's best in the 110-meter highs and the 100-meter dash where he has run 13.97 and 10.4 respectively.

The Huskers' distance medley team is the best in Nebraska history. They now hold the record both indoors and outdoors. At the Drake Relays, Scott Poehling (800) teamed with Everton DaCosta (400), Brian Dunnigan (1320) and Mark Fluitt (mile) for a record setting 9:36.60. With a healthy Ray Mahoney, the Huskers could be in line for one of their best Mile Relay teams in history before the season is finished.

With the National Championships approaching in Champaign, Ill., the Huskers are making final tune-up preparations for an effort which will cap another outstanding NU track season.

At the same time that the Husker men are excelling on the track, the Nebraska  
(continued)



Cindy Dixon is on the two-mile relay team that has qualified for the nationals.

Mark Billingsley photo



women are off to a fast start. Head coach Carol Frost's Lady Huskers suffered a big setback even before the season started with the loss of star sprinter Cindy Tatum to an ankle injury. The North Platte sophomore holds seven Husker outdoor school records and has been missed both in the individual events and on the NU relay teams.

One of the bright spots for the Husker women has been the emergence of freshman high jump star Sharon Burrill. She has the Nebraska school record of 6-0 $\frac{1}{4}$ , but the Denver native has a personal best of

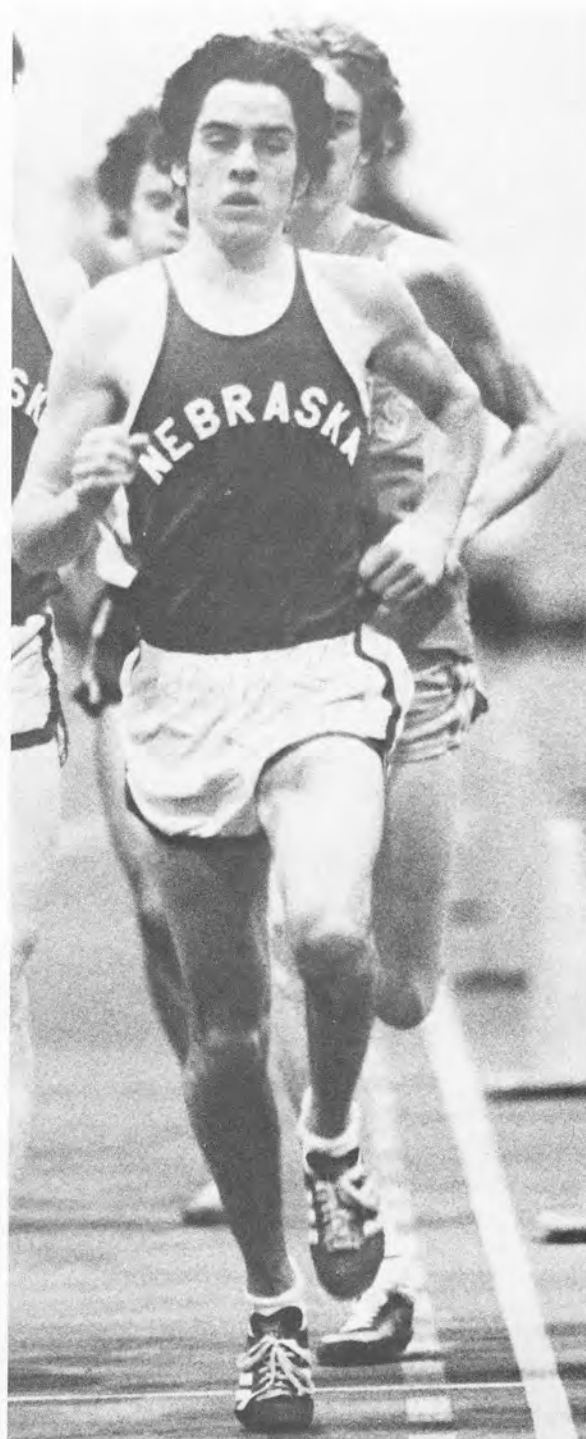
6-3. The entire stands rocked when Burrill cleared 6-0 $\frac{1}{4}$  to win the Drake Relays University division high jump.

Long jumper Janet Bates is nearing her best form, jumping over 19-0 at the Drake Relays. Bates holds the NU school record in that event at 19-3 $\frac{1}{4}$ . The Huskers are returning eleven athletes who competed in the outdoor National Meet last season, so the nucleus is strong.

The Huskers return the Big 8's 400-meter champion outdoors, Julie Seaton. Seaton holds the Nebraska school record of 55.1 set last season. If record breaking

indicates success in track, then the Huskers are having a successful season, especially in the field events. Freshman Karen Wilson erased the NU shot put record with a throw of 42-7 $\frac{3}{4}$  and sophomore Sue Kobza threw the discus 150-7 for another Husker mark. ★

(Left) Sophomore pole vaulter Randy Raymond this year became the first Cornhusker in history to clear 17 feet. (Below) Senior co-captain Mark Fluit holds the Husker record for the indoor mile and the outdoor 1500. Ted Kirk photos





# 1979 Big 8 Championships

- |                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Kansas 143       | 5. Colorado 59       |
| 2. Missouri 109     | 6. Oklahoma 53½      |
| 3. Kansas State 66½ | 7. Iowa State 41½    |
| 4. Nebraska 59      | 8. Oklahoma State 25 |

## 1500 Meters

Mark Fluitt 1st \*3:45.33  
Brian Dunnigan 3rd 3:46.09

## Mile Relay

DaCosta, Brooks, Mahoney,  
Poehling 3rd 3:10.21

## 400 Meter IH

Everton DaCosta  
2nd :50.7

## High Jump

Doug Phelps 2nd 7'-1½"

## 800 Meters

Scott Poehling 4th 1:47.35

## Javelin

Ken Drwal 3rd 233-2

## 400 Meters

Ray Mahoney 5th :46.54

## Discus

Lee Kunz 2nd 175-5

\*Big 8 Record

## 110 Meter HH

Randy Brooks 6th :14.47



NU long jumper Janet Bates holds the school record with a jump of 19-3¼.

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# HUSKER SCORECARD

by Ryly Jane Hambleton

**BASEBALL** — The Nebraska baseball team, at 44-11 (as of May 14) and with a berth in the Big Eight playoffs, has dealt few surprises to the coaching staff this year (see related article page 16).

In the past month, NU has compiled a 25-7 mark, including a four-game sweep of Iowa State, a two-game sweep of Oklahoma and a split with Oklahoma State. After taking the first game from Missouri in Columbia, Nebraska fell three times to the Tigers, setting up the all-important series with Kansas. NU dropped the first two, but still needed just one win to gain the tourney berth. The Big Red Machine poured it on and won both games including an extra innings affair in the second contest.

Coach Sanders is able to cite several reasons why the team had done well this year, but one that he feels can't be over-emphasized is the cohesion of the team.

"This team is really close. They've stuck together through adversity and have really believed in themselves," he said. "Different people have come through at different times, so no one person feels like it's up to him to pull the team through every time."

Jeff Hunter, a sophomore third-baseman, is leading the team in batting with a .351 average. Junior Pete O'Brien is the second-leading hitter at .342 and leads in RBIs at 56. Co-captain John Russo of St. Louis, Missouri, leads in stolen bases with 19, while the other co-captain catcher, Val Primante, leads the team in home runs with seven.

The Husker pitching staff boasts a team ERA of 2.76. Leading the staff are Tim Burke, with a 2.33 ERA and a 6-2 record and Jeff Costello at 5-0 and with a 1.93 ERA. Gary Nolting is 6-0 with three saves. Cliff Faust is 6-0 with a 2.40 ERA.

**TRACK** — Scott Poehling, who raced to a 1:46.92 800 in the UTEP Invitational for the fastest time in the world this year, finished fourth at the Drake Relays in the open 800.

The event, which drew some of the top 800 runners in the nation, was won by Evans White of Prairie View in a time of 1:47.44. Poehling struggled to a 1:49.13

after getting boxed in early in the race and then falling back 10 to 15 yards in the backstretch.

"I just lost my concentration," said the Fremont, Nebraska, junior. "Maybe I didn't taper like I should have this week and maybe I was due for a bad race. But that's irrelevant. The important thing is I lost and should have learned something." The distance medley relay team finished third at Drake. After Poehling opened with an 800 in 1:47.44, Everton DaCosta ran his 400 in :46.4. Brian Dunnigan ran the next leg in 2:44.8 and Mark Fluitt anchored the relay with the mile leg.

Lee Kunz finished fourth in the discus with a 176-0 toss and Randy Brooks was fifth in the 110-yard hurdles with a time of :4.23 at Drake. Poehling joined Kunz as a qualifier for the NCAA outdoor meet at Illinois with his 800 time. One other Husker, Randy Raymond, has met the qualifying standard in the pole vault. The sophomore from Fremont, Nebraska qualified with his school record vault of 17-0½ against Iowa State.

The Huskers took sixth place in the UTEP Invitational, as the host team took the title. Poehling was the only Husker winner in that meet. Second-place finishers for NU included Fluitt (1500 meters), Raymond (pole vault) and Doug Phelps, who high jumped 7-0¾.

**TENNIS** — The Husker tennis team upped its record to 16-9 (as of May 14) winning eight matches in the past month, including victories over Big Eight opponents Iowa State and Missouri.

Kent Lysgaard picked up seven singles victories against just one loss, while Scott Baker and Dale Christian both were 7-2 for the month. Dan Sloboth and Baker combined for the most effective doubles team, establishing a 6-1 record during the past nine meets.

**GOLF** — Coach Larry Romjue's golf team rebounded from a disappointing finish in the All-America Tournament in Houston to take second in the Shocker Classic at Wichita State and then capture the Drake relays. The Huskers, hoping for as good a finish in the conference meet as last year (second), fell to third after a disappointing first round.

Rick Reynolds (see article page 11), a senior, led the Huskers with a 75-74-75—224, which tied him for third with Colorado's Steve Jones. Reynolds has been picked by a national selection committee to participate in the NCAA tournament at Wake Forest University on May 22-26. OSU won the meet and Colorado was second. Other Big Eight marks for NU included Jim Julian 81-73-76—230, Steve Statton 80-77-75—232, Bill Henderson 79-81-76—236, and Knox Jones 84-78-79—241.

Jones and Statton tied for sixth in the Shocker Classic. Statton finished fourth in the Drake Relays Meet and was followed by Reynolds at fifth, Julian at eighth and Jones at 10th.

**SOFTBALL** — The Nebraska softball team utilized .300 hitting and solid pitching to win the Nebraska State Softball Tournament and gain a berth in the AIAW Region 6 Championships in Lawrence, Kansas.



First baseman Pete O'Brien is the second-leading hitter on the team with a .342 average. Ted Kirk photo



"We had good pitching from Belinda Keyes and our other two, Connie Gonyea and Alison Bodley, have always helped each other and this tournament was no exception," said head coach Don Isherwood. "Belinda struck out 19 in her two games and allowed just one run, so she is really in the groove at the right time of year."

Keyes boosted her record to 9-7 and dropped her ERA to 2.94. Gonyea is now 8-4 and has a 3.07 ERA.

"The pitchers have done well all year, but they really seem to have gained confidence in the past couple of weeks. We're 20-6 in the last month and have won 17 of our last 20," Isherwood said.

NU swept Northwest Missouri State twice, took two from Wayne State, UNO and Kansas State, split a doubleheader with Drake and Big Eight champion Kansas. The only dry spot in an otherwise green month was the Big Eight tournament in Iowa, when Nebraska gave up just five runs in two games, but could not get their own bats going.

"That was the low spot of the year, but now when it means post-season play, the team is really coming through," said Isherwood. "Kris Hermanson has really started hitting the ball and I think she has gotten the rest of them started."

Hermanson, a senior from Lincoln, collected five hits in the state tournament, as did junior Julie Uryasz of Omaha. Hermanson has raised her batting average to .314. Shelley Scott, Linda McCrea and Kathy Foley each collected four hits in the tourney.

Leading the Huskers in batting is McCrea with a .316 average. She also leads in RBIs with 38 and has 13 extra-base hits. Candy Hoffman, a freshman from Lincoln Southeast, is hitting .308 and leads the team with seven doubles. Scott leads the team in homers (5) and shares the base-stealing mark (14) with Hermanson.

The team is hitting at a .261 rate while opponents are at just .221. NU has 76 extra-base hits while opponents have just 35 doubles, triples and homeruns. A .944 team fielding percentage is the best in the school's history.

**TRACK** — Husker freshman Sharon Burrill gained the only Drake Relays championship for NU with a 6-0 leap in the high jump. Burrill had cleared 6-1 at an earlier indoor meet and still holds the national high school record.

But Burrill wasn't able to keep the magic going as she went out at the Big Eight meet in Manhattan at 5-7 and was able to clear just 5-9 in the prestigious Pepsi Invitational in California right after the conference meet.

"Sharon has come through for us all year, but she just had a bad weekend," said NU

head coach Carol Frost. "That happens to athletes and it's just too bad it had to happen to her that weekend."

NU's lone Big Eight champion was Karen Frazee, who won the pentathlon with a record total of 3,784.

"We were also pleased with Janet Bates' performance and also Sue Kobza," Frost said. Bates, the defending long jump champion, finished second in her specialty at 18-7½ while Kobza was third in the discus with a throw of 148-11.

Nebraska finished third in the Illinois



(Above) Scott Poehling has the best time in the 800 in the world this year. (Below) Julie Seaton holds the NU record in the 400 meters outdoors with a 55.1. (Below, right) Sue Sloboth has played consistent tennis for the Huskers all season.

Invitational and had three champions. Kobza won the discus and was followed by teammate Pam Koontz. Burrill won the high jump and Frazee won the pentathlon.

The Huskers won the Northern Colorado meet and again had three champions. Bates won the long jump at 19-0, Julie Seaton won the 400 meters in :56.47 and Burrill won the high jump at 5-10. The mile relay team of Janet Bornmeier, Betty Selman, Bates and Seaton also won, with a clocking of 3:58.32.

Bates finished third at the Drake Relays with a leap of 19-1½, just ½ inch short of qualifying for the national AIAW meet to be held May 23-26 at Michigan State. Both Bates and Seaton will travel to the AIAW Region 6 meet at Wichita State in an attempt to qualify for the nationals.

The Huskers have qualified the two-mile relay team (Cindy Vickers, Donna Fox, Lisa Kramer and Cindy Dixon) and seven individuals for the national meet. Dixon has qualified in the 1500, Kobza and Koontz in the discus, Karen Wood in the shot put, Burrill and Christy Lee in the high jump and Frazee in the pentathlon.

**GOLF** — The Nebraska women's golf team finished fourth in the Big Eight tournament with a 1,023 total. Defending champion Oklahoma State took the title again with OSU sophomore Alicia Ogrin taking individual honors. NU's Jane Deeter finished sixth with a 79-84-81—244 and made the All-Big Eight team.

NU won the Wichita State Invitational, with five golfers in the top 10. Deeter was second followed by Cathy Morrissey at fourth, Mimi Huston at eighth and Liz Weekes and Sue Hergert tied at 10th. NU also finished second at the Kansas Invitational.

**TENNIS** — The Nebraska tennis team finished sixth in the Big Eight Championships in Lawrence. Sue Sloboth and Sue Moore finished fourth in the number one doubles. Sue Sloboth was fifth in the number one singles and Sue Moore was fifth in the number four singles. ★





# 1979 SPRING SPORTS SCHEDULES

## TENNIS

## BASEBALL

## TRACK

### MEN

#### Results to date:

4-5 Cal State-Bakersfield  
4-5 Los Angeles-Pierce College  
3-6 Air Force  
5-4 Iowa State  
1-8 Oklahoma State  
2-7 Colorado  
0-9 Oklahoma State  
5-4 Missouri  
7-2 Baker  
9-0 Washburn  
8-1 McPherson  
7-2 Bethany  
6-2 Drake  
6-3 Iowa State  
1-8 Minnesota  
6-3 Illinois St.  
4-5 Kansas St.

### WOMEN

#### Results to date:

3-6 Oklahoma State  
2-7 Oral Roberts  
1-8 Oklahoma  
8-1 Kansas State  
1-8 Drake  
9-0 Northwest Missouri State  
Missouri Valley Championships — 7th  
Minnesota Invitational — 3rd (tie)

#### Results to date:

1-9 Cal Poly-Pomona  
15-1 Buena Vista  
12-8 Buena Vista  
9-0 South Dakota  
6-0 South Dakota  
13-3 Western Missouri  
3-1 Western Missouri  
9-1 Western Missouri  
9-6 Western Missouri  
5-1 Western Missouri  
10-8 Creighton  
15-5 Creighton  
9-5 Western Missouri  
5-4 Nebraska-Omaha  
0-1 Nebraska-Omaha  
7-4 Colorado  
5-1 Colorado  
3-2 Kansas State  
1-0 Kansas State  
2-7 Oklahoma State  
8-6 Oklahoma State  
3-0 Iowa State  
9-1 Iowa State  
3-0 Iowa State  
10-1 Iowa State  
7-1 Dana  
10-1 Dana  
7-2 Morningside  
12-0 Morningside  
7-5 Missouri  
5-10 Missouri  
0-13 Missouri  
4-6 Missouri  
4-2 UNO  
20-5 UNO  
1-3 Kansas  
2-3 Kansas  
4-1 Kansas  
3-2 Kansas  
2-1 UNO  
4-8 UNO

### MEN

#### Results to date:

Northeast Louisiana Invitational — 1st  
7-87 Arizona State  
77-77 Iowa State  
El Paso Invitational — 6th  
Drake Relays — no score kept  
68-86 Missouri

### WOMEN

#### Results to date:

Husker Invitational — 2nd  
Illinois Invitational — 3rd  
Northern Colorado Invitational — 1st  
State meet at Wayne St. — did not attend  
Drake Relays — no score kept  
Big 8 Championships — 7th; 48 points

## GOLF

## SOFTBALL

### MEN

#### Results to date:

Gulfstream Invitational — 2nd  
Morris Williams Invitational — 18th  
Wheatshocker Invite — 2nd  
Drake Relays — 1st  
Big 8 Championships — 3rd (tie)

### WOMEN

#### Results to date:

Wichita State Invitational — 1st  
Big 8 Tournament — 4th  
Minnesota Invitational — 5th

#### Results to date:

Nebraska 7, 13; Central Arizona 3, 5  
Nebraska 2, 12; Phoenix College 1, 1  
Arizona State 6, 2; Nebraska 3, 1  
Nebraska 9, 9; Yavapai College 0, 2  
Ohio State 2, Nebraska 1  
Nebraska 15, Baylor 3  
Oklahoma 6, Nebraska 1  
Nebraska 11, Mankato State 3  
Nebraska 3, 8; Northwest Missouri 0, 1  
Nebraska 1, 6; Northwest Missouri 0, 4  
Nebraska 2, 9; Wayne State 1, 3  
Nebraska 2, 4; Drake 1, 1  
Big 8 Tournament: 0-2 Missouri;  
0-3 Oklahoma St.  
Nebraska 1, 6; Northwest Missouri 0, 4  
Nebraska 2, 9; Wayne State 1, 3  
Kansas 3, 1; Nebraska 1, 12

Kansas St. Tournament — 1st  
Nebraska 7, 8; Kansas State 6, 2  
Nebraska 2, 4; UNO 1, 0  
Creighton — PPD  
State Tournament — 1st  
Drake — did not attend  
Region 6 Tourney: 0-9 Kansas; 10-4 N. Dakota  
State; 2-4 Emporia State

FINAL RESULTS  
NEXT MONTH



# tasty terry!

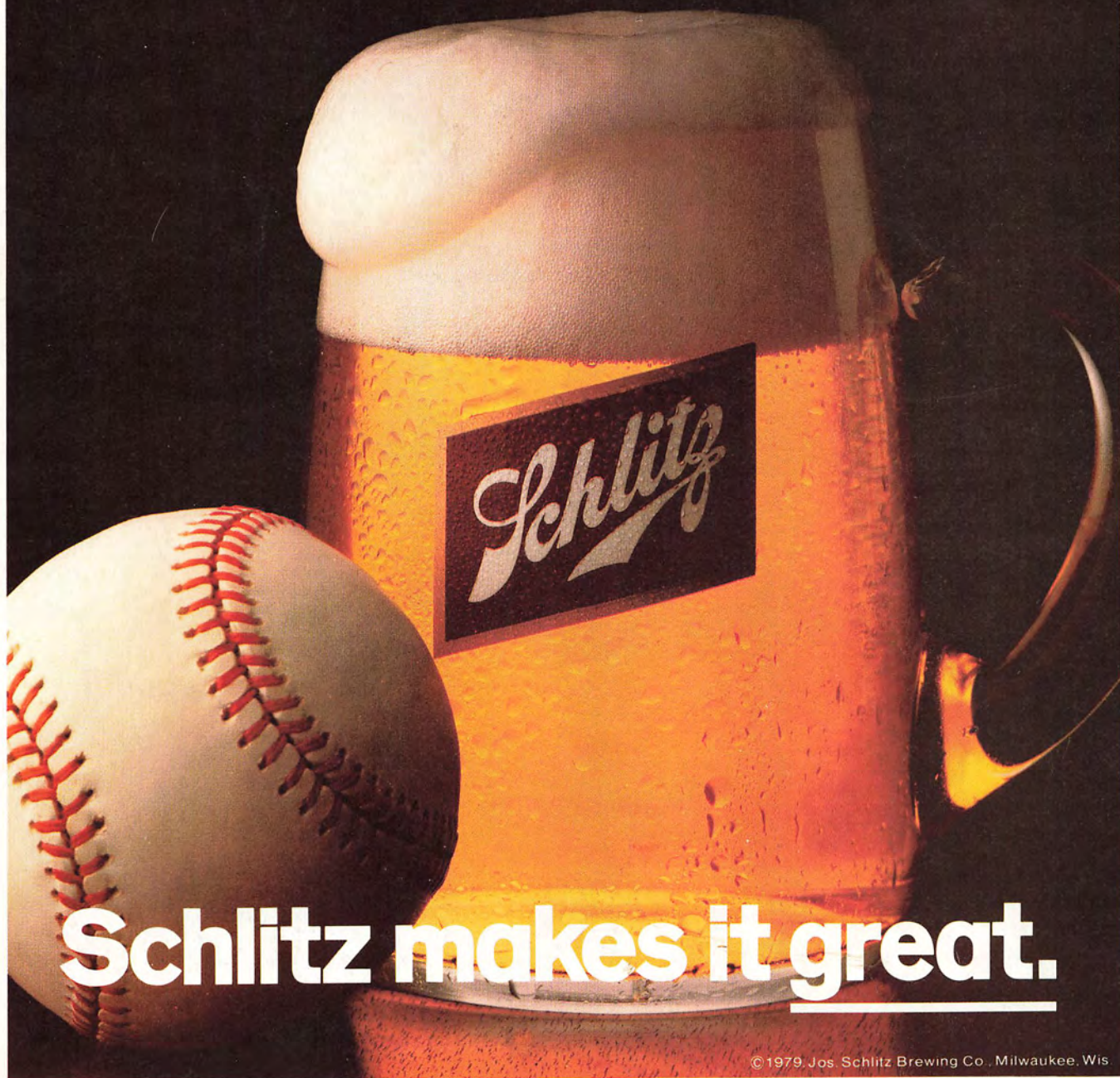
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